

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

STEPHANIE KESSEL,

Defendant.

**8:24-CR-145**

**PRELIMINARY ORDER OF  
FORFEITURE**

This matter is before the Court upon the United States of America's Motion for Preliminary Order of Forfeiture. Filing 31. The Court has reviewed the record in this case and, being duly advised in the premises, finds as follows:

1. On January 15, 2025, the Court held a change of plea hearing for Defendant and Defendant entered a plea of guilty to Count II and agreed to the Forfeiture Allegation in the Indictment. Filing 24; Filing 29.

2. Count II of the Indictment charged the Defendant with violation of 18 U.S.C. § 922(a)(6) and 924(a)(2).

3. By virtue of said plea of guilty, the Defendant has forfeited her interest in the firearms. Accordingly, the United States should be entitled to possession of said firearms pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 924(d) and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c).

4. The Government's Motion for Preliminary Order of Forfeiture should be granted.

IT IS ORDERED:

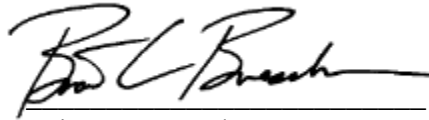
1. The Government's Motion for Preliminary Order of Forfeiture, Filing 31, is granted.
2. Based upon the plea of guilty, the Government is hereby authorized to seize the two Taurus G3C 9mm handguns.
3. Defendant's interest in the two Taurus G3C 9mm handguns is hereby forfeited to the Government for disposition in accordance with the law.
4. The two Taurus G3C 9mm handguns are to be held by the Government in its secure custody and control.
5. Pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(n)(1), the Government shall publish for at least thirty consecutive days on an official internet government forfeiture site, [www.forfeiture.gov](http://www.forfeiture.gov), notice of this Preliminary Order of Forfeiture, notice of publication evidencing the Government's intent to dispose of the subject property in such manner as the Attorney General may direct, and notice that any person, other than the Defendant, having or claiming a legal interest in any of the subject property must file a Petition with the Court within thirty days of the final publication of notice or of receipt of actual notice, whichever is earlier.
6. The published notice shall state the Petition referred to in Paragraph 5, above, shall be for a hearing to adjudicate the validity of the Petitioner's interest in the two Taurus G3C 9mm handguns, shall be signed by the Petitioner under penalty of perjury, and shall set forth the nature and extent of the Petitioner's right, title, or interest in the two Taurus G3C 9mm handguns and any additional facts supporting the Petitioner's claim and the relief sought.

7. The Government may also, to the extent practicable, provide direct written notice to any person known to have an interest in the two Taurus G3C 9mm handguns as a substitute for published notice as to those persons so notified.

8. Upon adjudication of all third-party interests, this Court will enter a Final Order of Forfeiture pursuant to 21 U.S.C. § 853(n), in which all interests will be addressed.

Dated this 13th day of February, 2025.

BY THE COURT:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. C. Buescher", written over a horizontal line.

Brian C. Buescher  
United States District Judge